

Attorney Docket No: IDF 1422 (4000-00400)

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (New) A computer-implemented method for implementing a trader service with fault tolerance, the method comprising:

creating a trader service;

identifying an object reference in response to a request by a requestor, the object reference including a reference to an object;

determining whether the object associated with the object reference is existent; and

providing the object reference to the requestor when the object is not existent.

12. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 11, further comprising:

organizing at least a first entry associated with the object reference in an index;

identifying a second object reference in response to the request by the requestor, the second object reference including a reference to a second object;

determining whether the second object associated with the second object reference is existent; and

where the second object is not existent, organizing at least a second entry associated with the second object reference in the index, the second entry positioned in the index behind the first entry.

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13. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 12, further comprising:

identifying a plurality of object references in response to the request by the requestor, the plurality of object reference each including a separate reference to each of a plurality objects;

sequentially determining whether the each object associated with each reference is existent; and

as each of the plurality of objects are determined not existent, organizing a separate entry associated with each of the plurality of object references in the index, each of the plurality of entries positioned in the index behind the previously organized entry.

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14. (New) A computer-implemented method for implementing a trader service with fault tolerance, the method comprising:

creating a first trader service;

creating a second trader service;

identifying, by one of the first and second trader services, a plurality of object references in response to a request by a requestor, the plurality of object references each including a reference to one of a plurality of objects;

determining whether each of the plurality of objects associated with one of the plurality of object references is existent;

organizing an entry associated with each one of the plurality of object references in an index, the entries ordered based on a sequence in which the associated objects reference are identified, and wherein when the related object is not existent the entry related therewith is placed at the bottom of the index; and

for a first existent object of the plurality of objects, providing the first object reference to the requestor, and wherein each of the plurality of objects is not existent, providing the object reference for a first not existent object of the plurality of objects to the requestor.

15. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 14, wherein the first trader service arranged to store persistent information, and further comprising:

creating at least one storage mechanism arranged to store the persistent information, and

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wherein the at least one storage mechanism comprises an LDAP compliant directory service, the first trader service maintaining a reference link to services of the second trader service such that the LDAP compliant directory service supports the first trader service reference to services of the second trader service.

16. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 15, wherein the first and second trader services are further defined as CORBA CosTrader Specification compliant.

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17. (New) A computer-implemented method for implementing federated trader services, the method comprising:

creating a first trader service, the first trader service arranged to store persistent information and wherein the first trader service is CORBA CosTrader Specification compliant;

creating at least one storage mechanism arranged to store the persistent information, and wherein the at least one storage mechanism comprises an LDAP compliant directory service; and

creating a second trader service arranged to store persistent information, the second trader service CORBA CosTrader Specification compliant, the first trader service maintaining a reference link to services of the second trader service such that the LDAP compliant directory service supports the first trader service reference to services of the second trader service.

18. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 17, further comprising:

receiving a request by the first trader service from a requestor; and

generating a responsive reference to the requestor from the second trader service.

19. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 17, wherein the first and second trader services are operable on different servers.

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20. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 17, wherein the first trader service being arranged to store persistent information, and further comprising creating at least one storage mechanism arranged to store the persistent information; wherein the at least one storage mechanism comprises a directory service.

21. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 20, wherein the directory service is compliant with LDAP version 2.

22. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 20, wherein:

the interaction between the data store interface and the at least one storage mechanism comprises the use of protocol compliant with LDAP version 2, and wherein the directory service is compliant with LDAP version 2.

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23. (New) A computer-implemented service comprising:

a trader service operable to provide object references based on a description of a service received from a requestor, the trader service CORBA CosTrader Specification compliant; and

an HTTP agent operable receive the description of the service requested by the requestor and communicate the description of the service to the trader service, the HTTP agent operable to receive the object reference from the trader service and provide the object reference to requestor.

24. (New) The computer-implemented service of Claim 23, further comprising:

a first trader service compatible requestor operable to compatibly communicate requests for descriptions of services to the trader service and receive object references from the traders service; and

a second trader service non-compatible requestor using the HTTP agent to promote the exchange of descriptions of services to the trader service and receive the object references from the traders service.

25. (New) The computer-implemented service of Claim 23, wherein the requestor is further defined as a non-CORBA object request broker vendor application.

26. (New) The computer-implemented service of Claim 23, wherein the HTTP agent is

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further defined as providing support by the trader service of a lightweight HTTP service for the requestor to bootstrap via HTTP protocol.